## In the Claims:

1.    (Previously Presented) A method of selecting a media proxy for transmitting a media stream along a path comprising,

    (a)    receiving a path setup request which specifies data endpoints for the path,

    (b)    traversing a nodular network model in a predetermined pattern dependent on the specified media endpoints,

    (c)    checking for a list of media proxies at each node traversed during traversal of the nodular network model, wherein a plurality of media proxies is linked to at least one of the nodes in the nodular network model in a list,

    (d)    determining the availability of at least one of the media proxies;

    (e)    selecting a media proxy from the list found during traversal of the nodular network model as the media proxy for the path using a predetermined selection policy.

2.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the list orders the media proxies linked to the node by preference and wherein the method further includes selecting the next proxy in the ordered list if the selected proxy is unavailable.

3.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the list includes a pool of proxies of equal preference and wherein the method further includes selecting a proxy in the pool of proxies using a predetermined strategy.

4.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined strategy is selected from a group containing random and round-robin strategies.

5.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the media proxy includes a local designation which indicates whether the media proxy should be used only for paths between endpoints in a particular subset of the whole network, and wherein the step of selecting the media proxy includes checking the local designation and if the media proxy is designated as local, determining if the specified media endpoints fall within the particular subset of the whole network.

6.    (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the path setup request is received by a call agent.

7.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the nodular network model is stored within the call agent.

8.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the nodular network model is stored separately from the call agent.

9.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein the nodular network model traversal and selection steps are carried out by the call agent.

10.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the nodular network model traversal and selection steps are carried out by the call agent.

11.    (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the nodular network model is stored as a tree hierarchy.

12.    (Previously Presented) A call agent arranged to setup a media path between data endpoints in networks separated by network address translation and further arranged to read a model of the network formed as a plurality of nodes which has a plurality of media proxies linked to at least one node of the plurality of nodes in a list, to receive a path setup request which specifies media endpoints for the media path, to read the model and traverse the model in a predetermined pattern dependent on the specified media endpoints, to check for a list of media proxies at each node traversed during traversal of the model, determine the availability of the media proxy and to select a media proxy from the list found during traversal of the model as the media proxy for the media path.

13.    (Previously Presented) A call agent according to claim 12, wherein the plurality of media proxies are linked to the at least one node in a list ordered by preference and wherein the call

3

agent is further arranged to select the next proxy in the ordered list if the selected media proxy is unavailable.

14. (Previously Presented) A call agent according to claim 12 wherein the plurality of media proxies are linked to a node in a list forming a pool of proxies of equal preference and wherein the call agent is further arranged to determine the availability of the plurality of media proxies and to select a proxy in the pool of proxies according to a predetermined strategy.

15. (Previously Presented) A call agent according to claim 12, wherein each media proxy includes a local designation which indicates whether the media proxy should be used only for paths between endpoints in a particular subset of the whole network, and wherein the call agent is arranged to check the local designation during media proxy selection and if the media proxy is designated as local, to determine if the specified media endpoints fall within the particular subset of the whole network.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied in a memory and adapted to execute on a processor in a call agent which is arranged to setup a media path between data endpoints in networks separated by network address translation and during execution to cause the call agent to read a model of a network formed as a plurality of nodes which has a plurality of media proxies linked to at least one node of the plurality of nodes in a list, to receive a path setup request which specifies media endpoints for the media path, to read the model and traverse the model in a predetermined pattern dependent on the specified media endpoints, to check for a list of media proxies at each node traversed during traversal of the model, to determine the availability for at least one media proxy and to select a media proxy from the list found during traversal of the model as the media proxy for the media path.

17. (Previously Presented) A call agent arranged to setup a media path between media endpoints in networks separated by a boundary which blocks media streams and further arranged to read a model of a network formed as a list of nodes and a default global pool of media proxies which are arranged to permit traversal of the boundary by the media stream and which are associated in a list with the model, to receive a media path setup request which specifies the

media endpoints for a path, to read the model and traverse the model in a predetermined pattern dependent on the specified media endpoints, to check for a linked media proxy at each node traversed during traversal of the model, and to select a media proxy as the media proxy for the path from the default global pool if no proxies are found during traversal of the model.